Difference between secondary and post-secondary education and disability

Identification

- High School - Students are identified by the school districts
- College - Students must self-identify by registering with the Disability Services office

Privacy

- High School - Information is shared with parents/guardians
- College - Student's right to privacy and confidentiality is upheld

Placement and Accommodations

- High School - Placement and accommodations include parents/guardians
- College - Placement and Accommodations do NOT include parents/guardians

Eligibility for Services

- High School - Eligibility for services is diagnosis-driven
- College - Eligibility for services is driven by severity and impact on major life activity(ies)

Instructor Awareness

- High School - Special Education teachers know you well and are aware of your specific difficulties or concerns, and know your strengths and weaknesses
- College - Students will need to initiate discussion and make your concerns known to college instructors, advisors, and disability resource facilitators

Time Management

- High School - School district structures a student's weekly schedule
- College - Student is responsible for their own time management

Reminders and Deadlines

- High School - Teachers remind students of exam dates and assignment deadlines
- College - Students are expected to know exam dates and assignment deadlines by referring to their syllabi

Discipline

- High School - Students are disciplined for skipping class
- College - Students are not disciplined for skipping class

Time Spent in Classroom

- High School - Time spent in classroom averages about 40 hours per week
- College - Time spent in classroom is approximately 13-16 hours per week. Don't let this fool you!

Time Spent on Homework

- High School - Time spent on homework is oftentimes substantially less than in college
- College - Time spent on homework is usually 2 hours for every hour you spend in class

Preparing for Exams

- High School - Preparing for exams usually involved memorization, and identification of information
- College - Preparing for exams will involve application of information

Tutors

- High School - Tutors and/or extra instruction is provided by teachers
- College - Students must seek out their own tutors to get more information on specific content information

Grades Changes

- High School - Instructors might retroactively change grades by allowing a student to retake an exam
- College - Grades aren't usually retroactive

Altering Courses and Programs

- High School - Courses and programs can be fundamentally altered
- College - Courses and programs ARE NOT fundamentally altered

Adapted from the College of Applied Health Sciences at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign